



PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 101.0084-00000
Customer No. 22882
Via U.S. Express Mail Label No. ED149927725US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:) Confirmation No.: 7453
Gary K. Michelson)
Serial No.: 09/457,228) Group Art Unit: 3738
Filed: December 8, 1999) Examiner: Bruce Snow
For: SPINAL IMPLANT SURFACE)
CONFIGURATION)

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) for the above-referenced application.

Copies of the listed documents are attached.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

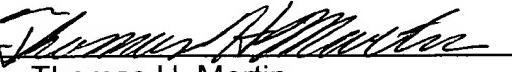
Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 50-1066.

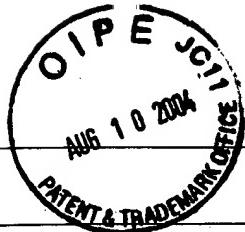
Respectfully submitted,

MARTIN & FERRARO, LLP

Date: August 10, 2004

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Substitute for FORM PTO-1449		Attorney Docket Number 101.0084-00000	Customer No. 22882	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION		Applicant Gary K. Michelson	Application Number 09/457,228	
(Use several sheets if necessary) Sheet <u>1</u> of <u>1</u>		Filing Date December 8, 1999	Group Art Unit 3738	Examiner Bruce Snow

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	2002/0068978	6/2002	Camino et al.			
	4,531,244	7/1985	Hamas			
	4,673,409	6/1987	Van Kampen			
	4,795,742	1/1989	Crownshield et al.			
	4,955,907	9/1990	Ledergerber			
	5,716,412	2/1998	DeCarlo Jr. et al.			
	6,190,414	2/2001	Young et al.			
	6,432,106	8/2002	Fraser			
	6,592,624	7/2003	Fraser et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION (YES/NO)

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER **DATE CONSIDERED**

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.